



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

March 15, 2007

James Rispoli
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management
EM-1/Forrestal Building
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 29585

Dear Mr. Rispoli:

Recommendation 154: Reaffirmation of DOE Secretarial Policy to Provide Stewardship at Ongoing Mission Sites with Residual Contamination

For nearly 10 years, stewardship issues for remediated areas on the Oak Ridge Reservation have been of primary importance to the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB). Early on, we recognized that a long-term stewardship program would be needed to protect human health and the environment from residual contamination.¹ Subsequently, in 1998, ORSSAB recommended that the Secretary of Energy issue a national policy establishing a commitment to long-term stewardship, to be followed by implementation guidance that allows for local participation and flexibility.²

Now that remediation is nearing completion on the Oak Ridge Reservation and elsewhere, DOE must assure that future generations have adequate and readily accessible resources for information regarding legacy contamination. We believe that the time is ripe for DOE Environmental Management to reaffirm its policy to provide stewardship to sites with residual contamination and ongoing missions.³

We recommend that DOE assign a headquarters liaison person within the Environmental Management Program who is responsible for oversight and resource assistance for stewardship, both pre- and post-remediation.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments and recommendation and look forward to receiving your written response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance J. Mezga".

Lance J. Mezga, Chair

cc: Dave Adler, DOE-ORO
Gerald Boyd, DOE-ORO
William Burnett, chair, Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board
Richard Buxton, co-chair, Idaho National Laboratory Citizens Advisory Board
J.D. Campbell, chair, Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board
Mike Farmer, Roane County Mayor
Bill Flanery, co-chair, Idaho National Laboratory Citizens Advisory Board
Doug Frost, DOE-EM-13
David Geiser, DOE-LM-1
Pat Halsey, DOE-ORO
David Herman, chair, Nevada Test Site Citizens Advisory Board
Connie Jones, EPA Region 4
Seth Kirshenber, Energy Communities Alliance
Susan Leckband, chair Hanford Citizens Advisory Board
Rex Lynch, Anderson County Mayor
Steve McCracken, DOE-ORO
Melissa Nielson, DOE-EM-10
James O'Connor, Oak Ridge City Manager
Michael Owen, DOE-LM-1
John Owsley, TDEC
Karen Patterson, Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
Ralph Skinner, DOE-ORO

- ¹. Final Report of the Oak Ridge Reservation End Use Working Group (July 1998).
<http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/pubs.htm>
- ². Oak Ridge Reservation Stakeholders Report on Stewardship, Vol. II (December 1999).
<http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/pubs.htm>
- ³. DOE Memorandum, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Carolyn Huntoon, January 19, 2001, Long-Term Stewardship Responsibility